FM. 3
G. 500-1-43

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station: Foreign Affairs Branch. File No. Date: May 14th.1945.

No. 4
93-5-45

SUBJECT:

Complaint lodged with Mayor of Greater Shanghai by Mr. Komin, Chairman of the Central Charity Committee of Russian Emigrants' Committee.

From perusal of the attached file, as well as from personal knowledge of the subject, it is quite clear that:-

1). In ordering the dissolution of the Central Charity Committee, Mr. Kleboff, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee acted strictly within limits of the authority with which he is vested by the Statute of the Russian Emigrants' Committee sanctioned by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on November 11th., 1941. Moreover General Kleboff's action was fully endorsed by the Emigrants' Committee and by representatives of almost all charitable organisations of the Emigrants Community.

2). Taking over by the Russian Emigrants' Committee of the property which was under temporary management of the dissolved organisation, took place with the sanction of the authorised local representative of the legal owner of the property in question.

3). The natural question of taking over and/or proper regulating of the various liabilities which the dissolved organization might have at the time of taking over of property from its charge, is at present receiving due consideration by a Committee appointed specially for this purpose and comprised of an equal number of representatives of the parties concerned.

4). Not only no disruption of relief work resulted from dissolution of the Central Charity Committee but there is every reason to expect its extension and improvement.

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station..... File No..... Date.....

SUBJECT:

5). Mr. Somin's ill considered attaempt to represent General Cleboff, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee as a person of doubtful reputation is not worth of attention and rather reflects unfavourably on the character of Mr. Somin himself and members of his dissolved Committee (some 8 to 10 people in all).

In view of the above it is respectfully suggested that being a purely internal affair of the local Russian Emigrant Community and there being nothing improper in the action of Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee, this matter does not call for any interference on the part of the Municipal Administration

.....
C. M. I.

.....
Officer i/c Foreign Affairs.

FM. 3
G. 500-1-42

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station: Foreign Affairs Branch. File No. ..... Date: May 14th.1945.

SUBJECT:

Complaint lodged with Mayor of Greater Shanghai by Mr. Tomin, Chairman of the Central Charity Committee of Russian Emigrants' Committee.

From perusal of the attached file, as well as from personal knowledge of the subject, it is quite clear that:-

1) In ordering the dissolution of the Central Charity Committee, Mr. Gleboff, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee acted strictly within limits of the authority with which he is vested by the Statute of the Russian Emigrants' Committee sanctioned by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on November 11th., 1941. Moreover General Gleboff's action was fully endorsed by the Emigrants' Committee and by representatives of almost all charitable organizations of the Emigrants Community.

2). Taking over by the Russian Emigrants' Committee of the property which was under temporary management of the dissolved organization, took place with the sanction of the authorised local representative of the legal owner of the propert; in question.

3). The natural question of taking over and/or proper regulating of the various liabilities which the dissolved organization might have at the time of taking over of property from its charge, is at present receiving due consideratio: by a Committee appointed specially for this purpose and comprised of an equal number of representatives of the parties concerned.

4). Not only no disruption of relief work resulted from dissolution of the Central Charity Committee but there is every reason to expect its extension and improvement.

FM. 3
G. 500-1-43

SHANGHAI MUNICIPAL POLICE.

REPORT

Station..... *File No.*..... *Date*.....

SUBJECT:

5). Mr. Fomin's ill considered attaempt to represent General Gleboff, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee as a person of doubtful reputation is not worth of attention and rather reflects unfavourably on the character of Mr. Fomin himself and members of his dissolved Committee (some 8 to 10 people in all).

In view of the above it is respectfully suggested that being a purely internal affair of the local Russian Emigrant Community and there being nothing improper in the action of Chairman of the Russian Emigrants' Committee, this matter does not call for any intereference on the part of the Municipal Administration

.....
C. D. I.

.....
Officer i/c Foreign Affairs.

SUBJECT:- Complaint lodged with Mayor of Greater Shanghai by Chairman of Central Charity Committee against Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee.

本件抄録備考

In conformity with instructions contained in Order No.2478 dated March 31,1945 of Shanghai Special Municipality Government,enquiries have been made into the conflict between the Russian Emigrants Committee and a Russian organization known as "Central Charity Committee",which forms the subject of the attached complaint lodged with Mayor of Greater Shanghai by Mr. N.U. FOMIN,Chairman of the latter organization, against Mr.F.L. GLEBOFF,Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee.

In order to obtain a clear understanding of the origin and nature of the conflict in question,it is necessary to keep in view the following facts relating to public life of the local Russian emigrant community:-

During the period from 1926 to the time of establishment of the present National Government of the Republic of China the Russian emigrant community in Shanghai never had a central representative and administrative organ,recognized as such by all the authorities concerned,as well as by the entire Russian emigrant community. All efforts made in order to effect unity in this respect proved to have been unsuccessful,which may be mainly attributed to the following factors:-

(a) Inability of leading public organizations to come to an understanding as to the principles, in accordance with which the representative and administrative organ of the community should be constituted;

(b) Existence in Shanghai of three administrative areas controlled by entirely independent authorities,which state of affairs presented a favourable soil for various separatist tendencies in the community.

As a result of the above circumstances there existed in Shanghai at the time of outbreak of Sino-Japanese hostilities in 1937 two rival public bodies,both claiming the status of central representative and administrative organ of the Russian emigrant community,namely: "Council of United Russian Public Organization" (established in 1932) under chairmanship of F.L. GLEBOFF and " Russian Emigrants' Association in Shanghai" (es-

tablished on 8-4-35). The latter, in turn, was comprised of two bodies:-

(a) "Russian Emigrants Committee" (established in 1926), which carried out representative and notary functions under chairmanship of Mr. G.E. METZLER

(b) "National Committee" (established on 8-4-35), which dealt with internal affairs of the community, including charitable activities, under chairmanship of Mr. N.U. FOMIN.

In April, 1938 the Japanese and the new local Chinese authorities recognized the Russian Emigrants Committee, in a reorganized form, as the only organ for administration of the community. In September of the same year, owing to a discord between Messrs METZLER and FOMIN, the Russian Emigrants Committee severed its connections with the "Russian Emigrants' Association in Shanghai". On May 30, 1939 the City Government of Shanghai inserted a notice in all local Russian newspapers to the effect that all, without exception, organizations of Russian emigrants in Shanghai must be registered at the Russian Emigrants Committee. Failing to comply with this notice, Mr. FOMIN announced on June 12, 1939 that both the "Russian Emigrants' Association in Shanghai" and its organ - the "National Committee" had ceased to exist and that only Charity Section of the "National Committee" would continue to function "in a state of liquidation" until further notice.

As to the "Council of United Russian Organization", it went out of existence without any announcement to that effect.

Under late Mr. N.A. IVANOFF, Mr. Metzler's successor at the post of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee, a representative of Charity Section of the former National Committee was, on 18-9-40, included in Governing Board of the Russian Emigrants Committee. Later on, the question of centralization of all charitable activities was again raised on June 11, 1941 at a meeting of Charity Section of the former "National Committee" attended by Head of Russian Orthodox Mission in China and by Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee. It was decided to abolish the Charity Section of former "National Committee" and to establish a new organization under the name of "Central Charity Committee of Russian Emigrant Community in Shanghai". All duties, rights and property of the abolished organization were taken over by the newly created one and all members of the former were automatically included in the latter retaining in it the respective posts they had held in the abolished organization. Thus Mr. N.U. FOMIN became chairman of the Central Charity Committee.

The new organization was registered with the Russian Emigrants Committee, but was given independence in the matter of

expending its funds for charity purposes,as well as in the matter of managing its property.

On November 25,1941 was published in local Russian press the "Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee" approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on November 8,1941 and registered with the Municipality of Greater Shanghai under No.14373. According to this Statute,which is still in force at present, "all Russian emigrants residing in Shanghai,as well as all institutions and organizations formed and administered by Russian emigrants,are subordinated to the Russian Emigrants Committee", Chairman of which "directs the activities of the Committee and is responsible for these activities". While Clause 6 of the Statute,in which the various sections of the Committee are enumerated,contains no mention of Charity Section, Clause 9 stipulates that "the entire charitable activities in the Russian emigrant community are subject to control on the part of the Russian Emigrants Committee".

Thus,for the first time since 1926 the local Russian emigrant community was placed under one central administrative organ functioning under general control of and responsible to the local authorities.

On April 25,1942 by a resolution of the Russian Emigrants Committee (Chairman - Mr. N.K. SEREJNIKOFF) Mr. N.O. FOMIN, Chairman of Central Charity Committee,was included in the Russian Emigrants Committee with the status of Chief of Charity Section. From that time all members of the Central Charity Committee have been made subject to approval by the Russian Emigrants Committee.

The formation of Central Charity Committee as an organization functioning separately and ,to a certain extent,independently from the Russian Emigrants Committee,was explained by the following circumstances:

Russian charities in Shanghai were largely dependent on help received from local foreign charitable institutions.However, in view of the fact that rather tense relations existed at that time between the new local Chinese authorities and the authorities of the two former foreign settlements, foreign charitable institutions did not favour the Russian Emigrants Committee -an organization functioning under direct control of the Chinese and Japanese authorities. Formation of the Central Charity Committee may be regarded as practical solution of this problem, and it has served its purpose.

At present the general situation in Shanghai is entirely different: no help is received by Russian organizations from foreign sources,while the entire area of Shanghai is controlled by the Chinese authorities. Consequently,complete centralization of public work in the community may be affected at any time,when it is deemed necessary and expedient to do so.

On 1-1-43 the post of Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee was assumed by Mr. F.L. GLEBOFF. In April,1944 he carried out a reorganization of the Committee with a view to transforming it from a purely administrative organ in an organ built up on a public basis. For this purpose three public bodies were elected by representatives of the various organizations,namely: Emigrants Committee, Supervision & Control Commission and Arbitration Court. From that time the Emigrants Committee - the highest organ of the community - is comprised of 14 members: 8 by election and 6 by appointment,the latter group consisting of chiefs of the various sections of the Emigrants Committee. By virtue of the fact that Mr. N.U. FOMIN carried out the duties of Chief of Charity Section, he also was given the status of member of the Committee.

During the course of the second half of 1944 the Supervision & Control Commission of the Russian Emigrants Committee began ,in execution of its proper duties, an inspection of the various Russian charitable organizations and institutions,their activities and accounts. It was in connection with this inspection that serious friction arose between the Russian Emigrants Committee and FOMIN's Central Charity Committee.

Apart from its duties in connection with representation of Russian charitable organizations and,to a certain extent,coordination of their activities, the Central Charity Committee for several years operated the so-called Russian Public Dining Hut, 79/A Route de Say Zoeng,where meals are issued to the poorer class of the emigrant community at reduced price,or free of charge. The Hut was constructed in 1938 at the cost of $7,000,of which sum $4000 was donated by foreign charities and $3,000 subscribed by members of the Russian community. The piece of land,on which the hut is located (Mun. Lot No.F.C. 854/10035), was bought in 1941 for the sum of $42,950 from Mr. A. Loonis for the needs of Russian emigrant community, Mr. N.U. FOMIN being instrumental in obtaining very easy terms of payment,as well as in obtaining from French Charities a loan of $10,000 for initial payment. For the rest of the sum involved an obligation was signed by Messrs N.A. IVANOFF, Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee, and N.U.FOMIN. Both the loan and the rest of the sum with interest were subsequently paid by the Russian Emigrants Committee,the final payment being made in 1944. For the sake of convenience the land was registered in the name of the Russian Orthodox Mission in China, and head of the Mission issued a Letter of Trust in the name of Messrs N.A. IVANOFF and N.U. FOMIN. On 15-5-43 a new Letter of Trust was issued by head of the Mission,this time in the name of N.U. FOMIN and Father M. ROGOJIN,local representative of the Mission.

Pointing out that Agreement dated 11-6-41 regarding formation of the Central Charity Committee stipulates independence of the latter in financial matters,as well as in management of its property (Dining hut etc), Mr. FOMIN raised objection to the in-

tention of the Supervising & Controll Commission to carry out full examination of affairs and accounts of his Committee.

Apart from being an act savouring of insubordination to the Russian Emigrants Committee, Mr. FOMIN's attitude in this case was rather unfortunate in view of the fact that rumours had been circulating in the community alleging the existence of certain irregularities in the management of affairs of the Central Charity Committee. Mr. FOMIN was aware of these rumours (which, it should be noted, had no reflection on his good name and reputation), but for reasons better known to himself he did not wish to disprove all the allegations by allowing the Supervision & Controll Commission to carry out the examination in question.

In connection with this friction it is of interest to note that on 24-10-44 the Russian Emigrants Committee passed a resolution to the effect that Agreement dated 11-6-41 referred to by Mr. FOMIN had lost its significance and force following publication of Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on 8-11-41.

Following his re-election as Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee for 1945, Mr. GLEBOFF proceeded with the carrying into effect of his plan of organization of economic self-aid in the community, the necessity of which had for some time been stressed in all public circles of the community. For this purpose he formed, on 30-1-45, the "Special Economic Council of Russian Emigrant Community in Shanghai" functioning under his chairmanship and comprised of 26 businessmen, of whom 18 were appointed by him and 8 were delegated by the Russian and Jewish Chambers of Commerce. According to Mr. GLEBOFF's instructions, the first task of the Council was to raise amongst the well-to-do class of the community sufficient funds ($50,000,000 was mentioned as maximum), out of which various forms of relief to the poorer classes of the community were to be financed. It was then decided that in the first place supply of meals at cost price, reduced prices or free of charge should be organized for the poorer classes of the Emigrant community.

Naturally, the Public Dining Hut was first to be used for this purpose, as it only required extension of the work it was already carrying out. Accordingly, early in February last Mr. GLEBOFF instructed Mr. FOMIN to put the Dining Hut at the disposal of the Special Economic Council for an indefinite period. Welcoming, in principle, the plan of extending the work of the hut, Mr. FOMIN and his Committee again raised the point of status of the Central Charity Committee, as one of the three parties signatory to Agreement of 11-6-41 and also the question of ownership of the premises of the hut and of the land where it is located. They suggested a lease of part of the premises in question on certain conditions to be agreed upon by the parties concerned.

In view of this attitude of the Central Charity Committee Mr. GLEBOFF on 23-2-45 ordered dissolution of that Committee,

while Mr. FOMIN was retained to direct activities of all charitable organizations in the community in the capacity of Chief of Charity Section of Russian Emigrants Committee.

Mr. GLEBOFF's action was subsequently fully endorsed by the Russian Emigrants Committee in resolutions passed on 27-2-45 and 13-3-45, respectively, as well as by representatives of 17, out of total number of 22 emigrant charitable organizations, who attended a special meeting of the Emigrants Committee convened on 27-3-45.

Maintaining their viewpoint, Mr. FOMIN and his Committee declared Mr. GLEBOFF's action, as well as resolutions passed by the Emigrants Committee and representatives of charitable organizations "illegal" or "inconsistent with law" and finally flatly refused to comply with the order in question pending arrival in Shanghai from Peking of Archbishop Victor, head of Russian Orthodox Mission in China.

Meanwhile, the Special Economic Council had to proceed with his work of organization of supply of hot meals to needy members of the community at another place, namely, at 1260 Rue Lafayette, beginning these activities on March 22, 1945.

—

From the particulars outlined above, as well as from perusal of Mr. FOMIN's complaint and of the correspondence that took place between him and Russian Emigrants Committee in connection with this matter, it would appear that the essential points of the dispute in question are as follows:-

I. <u>Viewpent of Central Charity Committee, Chairman Mr. M.U. FOMIN.</u>

(a) Central Charity Committee was established by virtue of Protocol signed on 11-6-41 by three parties: Archbishop VICTOR, Head of Russian Orthodox Mission in China; N.A. IVANOFF, then Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee; M.U. FOMIN, Chairman, and members of Charity Section of former "National Committee".

(b) The Protocol stipulated independence of the C.C.Committee in financial matters and in management of its property.

(c) This arrangement was kept in view when the Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee, approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on 8-11-41, was drafted, as it contains no mention of Charity Section in the constitution of the Committee.

(d) The C.C. Committee is located at 79/A Route de Say Zeong, both premises (Public Dining Hut) and land being property of Rus-

sian Orthodox Mission in China. Archbishop VICTOR (Peking), Head of the Mission, issued a Letter of Trust in respect of the property to N.U.FOMIN, Chairman of C.C.Committee, and Father M.ROGOJIN, the Mission's local representative.

(e) F.L.GLEBOFF, Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee, ordered N.U.FOMIN to hand over the Public Dining Room to the newly organized "Special Economic Council" and to dissolve the C.C.Committee. He made N.U. FOMIN personally responsible for the carrying out of this order. However, N.U. FOMIN, in his capacity of one of the Trustees, cannot hand over the Mission's property without authority from Archbishop VICTOR, the Truster. He also cannot dissolve the C.C.Committee without having first lawfully regulated all liabilities and obligations he has on hand in his capacity of Chairman of the C.C.Committee.

(f) Dissolution of the C.C.Committee will mean disruption of extensive charity work carried out by this organization; loss of a monthly income of about $1,000,000 for charity purposes of the emigrant community, this sum being earned by efforts of the C.C. Committee at present and, further, it will mean immediate distress to some 50 employees of the C.C.Committee and to some 100 people receiving relief from the C.C.Committee at present.

II. Viewpoint of Russian Emigrants Committee, Chairman F.L. GLEBOFF.

(a) By virtue of Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on 8-11-41, Russian Emigrants Committee is an administrative organ, to which all Russian emigrants residing in Shanghai and all their organizations are subordinated. Chairman of the R.E. Committee directs its activities and is responsible for them.

(b) Following publication of the Statute, Protocol dated 11-6-41 regarding formation of Central Charity Committee lost its binding force.

(c) Although no mention is made in the Statute of Charity Section in the constitution of the R.E.Committee, Clause 9 stipulates that that the entire charitable activities in the emigrant community is subject to control on the part of Russian Emigrants Committee.

(d) Public Dining Room is property of the emigrant community. It has been ascertained from local representative of the Russian Orthodox Mission, that the Letter of Trust, referred to by N.U. FOMIN, was issued by the Mission in respect of the land only. It was also ascertained from the same source that the Mission has no objection whatsoever to the handing of the property for use by the R.E.Committee for charity purposes, as requested.

(e) The matter of liabilities and obligations, which N.U. FOMIN may have on hand in his capacity of Chairman of Central Charity Committee, is subject to consideration and regulation by the Russian Emigrants Committee and N.U. FOMIN, and by no means can delay or obstruct immediate handing over of Public Dining Hut for temporary use by Special Economic Council.

(f) The Central Charity Committee first evaded and then flatly refused to give a full account of its activities and to put itself under Public Control - a very natural demand in public life. Following formation of Special Economic Council, which was mainly due to inactivity of the Central Charity Committee, for very urgent task of organization of food supply to the poorer classes of the emigrant community, the C.C. Committee on purely formal grounds delayed the handing over of the Public Dining Hut to the Special Economic Council. Thus, activities of a small group of individuals comprising the C.C. Committee and claiming full independence in their activities, have reached the stage of open insubordination to the Emigrants Committee and its Chairman, which state of affairs is contrary to the Statute of the R.E. Committee and cannot be tolerated any longer.

In outlining details of the dispute under consideration, everything that savoured of personal antagonism was ignored. That personal antagonism may have something to do with this dispute is evidenced by general tone of Mr. FOMIN's complaint and especially by the outburst against Mr. GLEBOFF, contained in Clause 10 of the complaint. In order to obtain a correct view of this point and in fairness to Mr. GLEBOFF it should be noted that he was elected to the post of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee in 1942 by majority of 129 against 3 of representatives of Emigrant organizations; in 1943 he was re-elected unanimously by about 160 representatives of organizations. On both occasions the Central Charity Committee had 14 votes.

Towards the end of 1944 some criticism was voiced of Mr. GLEBOFF's activities as Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee. Therefore, for the first time in the history of the local Russian emigrant community, elections were arranged on December 24 and 25, 1944, in which every Russian emigrant duly registered with the R.E. Committee, who had his passport in proper order and participated in contributions towards the voluntary Self-Taxation Fund of the community, was called upon to participate. Mr. GLEBOFF was elected having secured twice as many votes, as Mr. N.U. FOMIN, the only other candidate.(3)

It should also be noted that Mr. N.U. FOMIN, a prominent public worker in the emigrant community, was a party to every strife that has taken place within the community over the question of administration of the community. Naturally, he is to a certain extent responsible for inability to reach an understanding in this matter.

In conclusion of this report I have to state that on 13-4-45 representatives of the Russian Emigrants Committee headed by Mr. G.K. BOLOGOFF, acting on instructions of Chairman of the Committee and being in possession of a document from local representative of the Russian Orthodox Mission to the effect that the Mission had no objection to the handing over of the Hut, arrived at the premises 79/A Route de Say Zeong and demanded handing over of the Public Dining Hut to the Russian Emigrants Committee.

Mr. N.U. FOMIN protested to the police authorities, Zang-Zau Police Station. Being unsuccessful in this, he had to come to terms with representatives of the R.E.Committee and agreement was signed by the parties concerned to the effect that

(a) Mr. N.U. FOMIN, Chairman of the former Central Charity Committee, will, for the purpose of effecting technical procedure of handing over of documents and property of the former C.C.Committee, will appoint handing over Commission of 5 members, who were to come to the premises of the Public Dining Hut on 16-4-45, armed with proper powers.

(b) Joint Commission for receiving and handing over, under chairmanship of M.A. MOSHKIN, will consider liabilities of the former C.C.Committee in respect of third parties with a view to the ascertaining their legality and with a view to the meeting of these liabilities.

(c) The Joint Commission is to carry its work not later than 1-5-45.

Mr. N. FOMIN signed this agreement with the following remarks:

(a) "I do not consider as quite legal the document issued by the Russian Orthodox Mission in China, as it does not bear the signature of Archbishop Victor who signed the Letter of Trust issued in my name.

(b) I am obliged to sign this Act yielding to the fact of forcible occupation of the premises, it being impossible for me to obtain protection".

Activities of the Public Dining Hut and of other branches of the former Central Charity Committee have since been carried on without any disruption under supervision of Mr. G.K. BOLOGOFF, the newly appointed Acting Chief of Charity Section of the Russian Emigrants Committee, Mr. N.U. FOMIN having been relieved of this post by order of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee dated 16-4-45.

A. Prokofiev
A/C.D.I.

Officer i/c Foreign Affairs
Section.

Translation from Russian

COPY

CENTRAL CHARITY COMMITTEE
OF RUSSIAN EMIGRANT COMMUNITY
IN SHANGHAI

79/A Route de Say Zeong

T. 72730

March 18,1945
Shanghai.

TO HIS EXCELLENCY
GENERAL CHOW FU HAI,
MAYOR OF GREATER SHANGHAI.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

I have the honour to submit to you herewith materials representing an outline of the difficulties and helpless position in which I and the Central Charity Committee of Russian Emigrant Community,headed by me, find ourselves in connection with a series of acts,inconsistent with law,on the part of S.L.Gleboff, Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee, and of the Emigrants Committee subordinated to him.

In order not to deprive my Committee of the possibility to continue the work of rendering extensive relief to needy Russian emigrants at the present extremely critical time,I respectfully beg you for favour of considering my present complaint in its essence and for favour of according me your high protection and patronage.

I am,Sir, your obedient servant

(Signed): N.FOMIN
Chairman of Central Charity Committee.

For true copy:

(Signed): M. Demracheyeff,
Secretary of Central Charity Committee.

Translater's note: This translation was made from the original Russian text of the petition, a copy of which was obtained by the undersigned from Mr.N.U. FOMIN on 14-4-45.

[illegible]
[illegible]

Translation from Russian

Shanghai, March 16,1945.

MEMORANDUM

on the subject of difficulties experienced by Central Charity Committee of Russian Emigrant Community in Shanghai

1. The Central Charity Committee was established on June 11,1943 by virtue of a special protocol signed by three parties,namely:
   (a) Archbishop Victor,Head of Russian Orthodox Mission in China,and Bishop John of Shanghai;
   (b) N.U.Fomin,Chairman, and members of National Committee of Russian Emigrants Association and
   (c) N.A. Ivanoff,Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee,officially appointed to his post by Mayor of Greater Shanghai.

   By the same act the National Committee of Russian Emigrants Association was abolished,and all its rights and property were handed over to the newly established Central Charity Committee,while Chairman and members of the National Committee of Russian Emigrants Association were automatically included in the newly established Central Charity Committee retaining their respective posts. The same protocol provides " economic,financial and property independence of the Central Charity Committee and its registration with the Russian Emigrants Committee as an independent organization on common basis.

2. The Central Charity Committee was subsequently lawfully registered with the Russian Emigrants Committee,as well as with all proper authorities and the police,including the present Shanghai Municipal Council.

3. The Central Charity Committee is located at No 79-A Route de Sayzeong (Charng Shu Lu),in own house belonging to the Russian Orthodox Mission in China.. Archbishop Victor,Head of the Russian Orthodox Mission in China, gave full power of attorney for possession of the piece of land and houses situated on it to Messrs N.U. Fomin,Chairman of the Central Charity Committy, and Father Mihail Rogojin,Archpriest,representative of the Mission's Council in Shanghai.

4. The Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on November 8,1941 does not provide for Charity Section,as upon report of N.A. Ivanoff,then Chairman of the Russian Emigrants Committee, duties of Charity Section are incumbent on N.U. Fomin,Chairman of Central Charity Committee, and have since been performed gratis. Apart from attending in a general way to combined Russian charities in Shanghai,the main attention of the Central Charity Committee was directed towards the task of providing needy Russian emigrants with shelter and food free of charge or at reduced price. For this purpose was,as far back as 1937, created the Public Dining hut,located at 79-A Route de Sayzeong (Charng Shu Lu),which is still functioning. The main sources of income of the Central Charity Committee are:-

   (a) Proceeds from the game of Lotto permitted and controlled by the police;
   (b) Proceeds from exploitation of the premises and
   (c) Other charity sources,including an insignificant monetary subsidy from the Russian Emigrants Committee.

Statements of accounts re: receipts and expenditures of the Central Charity Committee are sent monthly to the Police Headquarters, Zangzau Police Station, as well as to the Russian Emigrants Committee. Especially detailed statements of accounts are submitted regarding Lotte, which contain the following data; gross receipts on each day, the game is operated, expenses in connection with operating the game, number of patrons attending, net profit and particulars as to its distribution. Very often proceeds from Lotte were directed for the benefit of other charitable organizations requiring help, such as orphanages, schools etc.

5. Budget of the Central Charity Committee for the year 1944 reached the sum of over $15,000,000, while at present the Central Charity Committee spends over $1,000,000 per month solely on charity.

6. Under Mr. Gleboff's predecessors at the post of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee the work of the Central Charity Committee was carried out normally and with great success. From the moment of Mr. Gleboff's coming to power the Central Charity Committee began to experience a series of difficulties, and relations became especially tense after Mr. N.U. Femin, Chairman of the Central Charity Committee, stood for election to the post of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee in December 1944. At the present time, as will be seen from what is set forth below.

7. Taking into consideration extremely serious food situation which prevailed in the town and being aware of the difficult position of all Russian charitable organizations the Central Charity Committee, as far back as summer, 1944, raised the question of obtaining a large loan from the Central Reserve Bank with the said piece of land as security, with a view to the buying of foodstuffs and creation of a central storehouse for supplying needy population with cheap products. This plan failed because the Russian Bank in Shanghai demanded a too large commission for negotiation of the loan.
On January 11, 1945 this question was again raised by the Central Charity Committee in the Russian Emigrants Committee and was for the second time rejected by Mr. Gleboff. Instead of this plan of the Central Charity Committee conceived a scheme of raising up to 50 million dollars by compulsory means. After this scheme had been frustrated, because Gleboff's action was inconsistent with law and was taken without previous consultation with the Russian Chamber of Commerce, by method of intimidation only, he directed his efforts towards seizure of property of the Central Charity Committee under the pretext of utilizing its Public Dining Hut as a food distribution point.
At first, when Gleboff's true intentions were not clear, his undertakings were met halfway by the Central Charity Committee and on February 18, 1945 representatives of the Central Charity Committee signed an agreement with representatives of the Special Economic Council regarding handing over of the major part of premises of the Public Dining Hut for temporary use free of charge for the purpose stated above. The Central Charity Committee also offered to hand over in future these parts of of proceeds from Lotte which are usually spent on free meals. The generous offer of the Central Charity Committee failed to satisfy Gleboff and he demanded immediate abolition of the Central Charity Committee, having made N.U. Femin, Chairman of the Committee, personally responsible for this abolition, while N.U. Femin was offered the post of Chief of Charity Section of the Russian Emigrants Committee, which post does not exist at all, according to the Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai.

9. Inconsistency of this order with law will be seen from the following:-
Mr. N.U. Femin, in his capacity of a trustee of the Russian Orthodox Mission in China, has no right to hand over into full actual possession of a third and even unregistered organization (Special Economic Council) without the consent of the truster - Archbishop Victor. Mr. N.U. Femin, in his capacity of Chairman of Central Cha-

rity Committee, and in the name of the latter has on hand a number of financial and material obligations to third parties, and thus an abolition of the Central Charity Committee without a lawful liquidation of all these economic relations is liable to cause a series of financial claims to the Central Charity Committee on the part of employees (numbering 51), as well as on the part of the various contractors. As the Central Charity Committee has no free capital and, consequently, in the event of liquidation capitalization of the property will become inevitable, the property in question cannot be put at the disposal of the Special Economic Council. Mr. N.U. Fomin and Governing Board of the Committee refused to comply with this order pending arrival in Shanghai of Archbishop Victor.

9. As a result of this refusal there followed repressions on the part of Mr. Gleboff and Russian Emigrants Committee, which took the shape of a complaint, addressed to Mr. Matsushita, Deputy Chief of Zangzau Police Station, against the Central Charity Committee for disobedience to the order of Chairman of Russian Emigrants Committee. Mr. Matsushita adopted formal viewpoint and intended to withdraw permission for operating Lotto in the Public Dining hut, and it was only after insistent requests of Mr. Chairman of Central Charity Committee and after explanations, supported by documents, of inconsistency with law of Mr. Gleboff's actions that he agreed to the continuing of Lotto for an unspecified brief period pending a documentary protest, which the Central Charity Committee was to direct to the Russian Emigrants Committee.

10. The position of Central Charity Committee has been becoming especially difficult for some time past as, apart from unlawful persecutions, the collaboration itself with Mr. Gleboff, has become absolutely impossible from the viewpoint of ethics, as Russian Public workers comprising the Central Charity Committee and having stainless reputation of honest, loyal citizens of Shanghai cannot recognize, as their head and representative before the Authorities, a man concerned in the creation of a criminal gambling den, which was exposed by the police and which is commented upon in all local newspapers. These circumstances exhaust one's patience, as Gleboff's activities in administrating the community was in many cases before already marked with a character inconsistent with law infringing the Statute of Russian Emigrants Committee, approved by Mayor of Greater Shanghai on November 8 1945.

11. In the event of abolition of the Central Charity Committee in accordance with Gleboff's plan, immediate catastrophy will be experienced by 51 employees and over 100 people, receiving free meals and other relief from the Central Charity Committee, while combined budget of charitable organizations will be less of a sum over 1.000.000 dollars, which is earned by the Central Charity Committee solely by its own efforts, without applying for any help to private people or to institutions.

SIGNED: N.U. FOMIN
Chairman of Central Charity Committee.